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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,942	12/29/2000	Julio Estrada	LOT9-2000-0025 US1	9237

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IBM CORPORATION  
LOTUS SOFTWARE  
ONE ROGERS STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/752,942

Applicant(s)

ESTRADA, JULIO

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. The specification is objected since it does not cite the serial numbers and the filing dates of the related applications listed on pages 1-4.

2. The abstract is objected since it exceeds 150 words.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim claims "A computer program product" per se and does not positively recite that the program is stored on a medium that can be read by a machine. As such, the claimed invention is not directed to a machine readable medium or a manufacturer article.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 10 recites the limitation "said other place". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 11 recites the limitation "said other place". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 11 recites the limitation "said place type" in lines 9-10. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 11 recites the limitation "said list of available place types". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Salas et al ("Salas", USP 6314408).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 18, and 20, Salas teaches a method for creating a place in collaboration space, comprising the steps of creating a first place and saving said first place as a place type template from which other places may be created in said collaboration space (col 6, lines 36-64)

Regarding claims 2 and 19, Salas teaches responsive to a user selecting a create a collaboration space place action from a browser user interface, displaying a list of custom place types (col 4, lines 62-63); receiving from said user a name of a custom place type from said list, together with a name for a new place, user name and password (col 13, lines 37-40); and responsive to verification of said user as authorized by user name and password, creating a new place from said custom place type (col 4, lines 56-66).

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Salas teaches the steps of organizing said collaboration space according to an object model selectively including room (eRoom), folder (col 6, line 49), page (col 4, lines 63-64), member (col 3, line 2).

Regarding claims 4 and 16, Salas teaches that said place type being implemented as a directory within said room type (col 2, lines 51-52).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Salas teaches the customize said collaboration space by integrating external technology (col 4, lines 17-24).

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Regarding claim 6, Salas teaches the granting authority to an authorized user to access said place type and create a new place from said place type (col 4, lines 62-63); and responsive to a request from said authorized user, modifying said new place (col 11, lines 31-33).

Regarding claim 7, Salas teaches the creation other places having the format, look and feel of said first place (col 4, lines 17-25).

Regarding claims 8 and 17, Salas teaches the including membership (col 4, lines 60-61).

Regarding claim 9, Salas teaches that in response a user request, displaying at said browser changes made to said place type (col 16, lines 29-33).

Regarding claim 10, Salas teaches the updating and modifying place (col 13, lines 3-7).

Regarding claim 11, Salas teaches a method for creating a place in collaboration space, comprising the steps of creating a first place, saving said first place as a place type template from which other places may be created in said collaboration space (col 6, lines 36-64); and responsive to place manager selection: selectively preventing changes to look and feel of said other place by not presenting decorate options in said place type (col 11, lines 52-55); selectively displaying a description of said place type (col 6, lines 40-48); creating said new place from said place type template (col 10, lines 1-6); displaying source information for said place type template, including name and address of collaboration space place on which said place type is based (col 10, lines 8-21); selectively hide or redisplay names and descriptions of place types in said list of

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available place types (col 8, lines 23-25, lines 59-60); selectively update new places created using said place type when said place type changes (col 10, lines 31-350); and selectively copying said place type from a server on which said place type was created to another server (col 2, lines 36-37).

Regarding claim 14, Salas teaches a browser for manipulating functionality provided by said place type template (col 11, lines 25-30).

9. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach about collaborative system which relates to the claimed invention.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7238 (After Final Communication)

or

(703)-746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703)-746-7240 (For Status Inquiries, draft communication)

and / or:

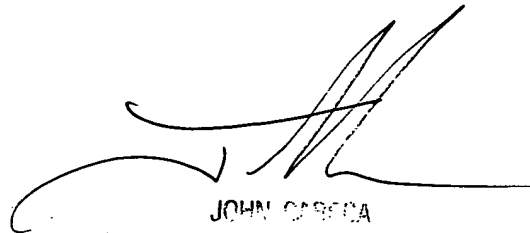
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(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

June 17, 03



JOHN CASADA  
SUPERVISOR EXAM  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2